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Park Avenue Synagogue

ק"ק אגודת ישרים

Bulletin

:DECEMBER 2006

Park Avenue Synagogue celebrates Chanukah: the Festival of Lights

Menorah, from the the Permanent Collection of the P.A.S. Gallery

from our Rabbi Kenneth Stern

It is not always easy to understand the concepts that Professor Abraham Joshua Heschel wrote of or spoke about. Decades ago, at the Seminary's annual winter fundraiser in Palm Beach, he confounded his listeners as he waxed eloquent about time and space. Needless to say, the audience's perplexity was reflected in their less-than-enthusiastic response to the appeal for financial support for the Seminary. That's when Leonard Ratner, a member of my former congregation, rose and made his own appeal, "Ladies and Gentlemen: I believe that what the Professor is trying to say is: in time, the Seminary will need more space."

Heschel often requires a guide or an interpreter. His prose is compact, and beautiful—much of it reads like poetry, but it is so dense with meaning and complexity, that sometimes I can only read two or three pages at a time.

But there are passages from Heschel that are eminently readable, and we are blessed that he crafted a moving, evocative "essay" on the Synagogue's role in our lives. It serves as a fitting conclusion to our year of Prayer and Practice:

"What does a person expect to attain when entering a synagogue? In the pursuit of learning one goes to a library; for aesthetic enrichment one goes to the art museum; for pure music to the concert hall. What then is the purpose of going to the synagogue? Many are the facilities which help us to acquire the important worldly virtues, skills and techniques. But where should one learn about the insights of the spirit? Many are the opportunities for public speech; where are the occasions for inner silence? It is easy to find people who will teach us how to be eloquent; but who will teach us how to be still? It is surely important to develop a sense of humor; but is it not also important to have a sense of reverence? Where should one learn the eternal wisdom of compassion? The fear of being cruel? The danger of being callous? Where should one learn that the greatest truth is found in contrition?

"To attain a degree of spiritual security, one cannot rely upon one's own resources. One needs an atmosphere where the concern for the spirit is shared by a community."

"We are constantly in need of self-purification. We are in need of experiencing moments in which the spiritual is as relevant and as concrete, for example, as the aesthetic. Everyone has a sense for beauty; everyone is capable of distinguishing between the beautiful and the ugly. But we must also learn to be sensitive to the spirit. It is in the synagogue that we must try to acquire such inwardness, such sensitivity.

"To attain a degree of spiritual security, one cannot rely upon one's own resources. One needs an atmosphere where the concern for the spirit is shared by a community. We are in need of students and scholars, masters and specialists. But we also need the company of witnesses, of human beings who are engaged in worship, who for a moment sense the truth that life is meaningless without attachment to God.

"I grew up in a home of worship where the spiritual was real. There was no elegance, but there was contrition; there was no great wealth, but there was great longing. It was a place where seeing a Jew, I sensed Judaism. Something happened to the people there when they entered the house of worship. To this day, every time I go to a synagogue my hope is to experience a taste of such an atmosphere."

from our Chairman Amy A.B. Bressman

December ends our year of Prayer and Practice. It has been a thoughtful year exploring and understanding what resonates for us as Jews today. There have been classes, a walk together in Central Park, Gallery shows, and over the last few months we have examined the place of Shabbat in our lives. This exploration will culminate on December 8th and December 9th with a special Shabbat. Friday night will be the "Night of Shabbat Dinners" when every congregant who chooses to do so will be invited to a fellow congregant's home for Shabbat Dinner. There will be special Shabbat morning services, then *Havdalah* followed by our beloved annual Musicale. It will be a most wonderful way to end this year as not only will we celebrate Shabbat in a meaningful way, but we will celebrate it as a community. As I write this article at the end of October, 30 families have already signed up to host other families. Our clergy will travel from house to house to greet our congregants and I am hoping this will end up being one of the most memorable nights in our Synagogue's history.

For three years our programming has been theme-based. In 2004 we examined our relationship with Israel and in December of that year we traveled to Israel. In 2005, we examined the spark within us to help each of us better understand what motivates us as Jews and the year culminated with Judea Pearl speaking about what it means to be a Jew.

It has been a wonderful three years. It has been so exciting to see our active community grow. Each of our congregants will take a different Jewish Journey and critical to all that has been planned is an understanding of this. Multiple ways of entry have been created to provide access to what all of us contemplate—what is the Jew of the 21st Century? I thank our clergy, Paul Corwin and Sarah Gribetz for the endless creative ways they have given us to examine this question.

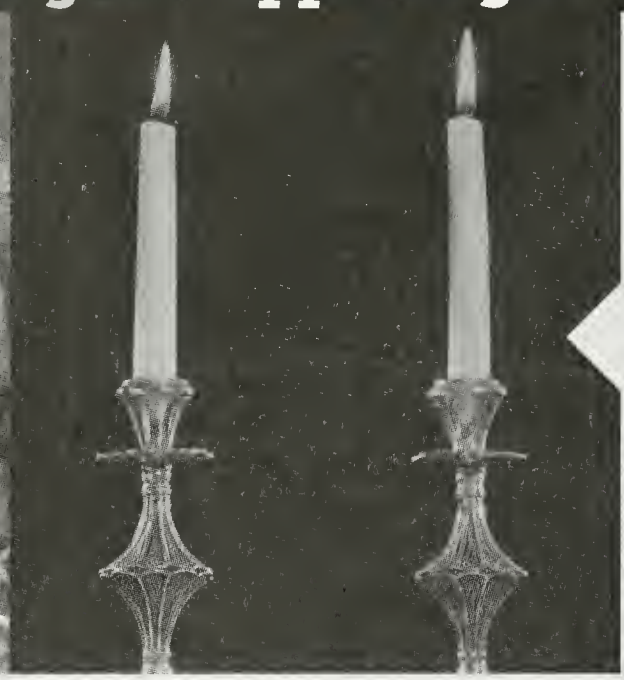
Multiple ways of entry have been created to provide access to what all of us contemplate—what is the Jew of the 21st Century?

January launches an 18-month celebration of our 125th Anniversary. I feel honored and privileged to be your Chairman during this important time. You will soon see that the plans for this celebration reflect the issues we have examined for the last three years as they define the essence of our Congregation and its values. Central to the year's celebration is our Torah Project and a 125th Anniversary trip to Israel in December of 2007. Through our Torah Project, we are creating a special 125th Anniversary Torah that will commemorate this time in our Synagogue's history. It will outlive us all and be the Torah that our children and our children's children use on the special occasions of their lives. There are 1000 letters available for us to complete. It is a rare, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to write a Torah. I hope that all of you will choose to be a part of the creation of this Torah. Through this project we not only hope to give a gift to future generations by creating this Torah, we hope to give a gift to future generations by increasing the size of our endowment and further securing our Synagogue's future. This is our responsibility as the members of the Synagogue today.

I also encourage all of you to mark your calendars and set aside December of 2007 to travel to Israel with your community. The trip is already being planned and will be nine days that you will remember forever.

I could not be more excited for the months that lie ahead. I encourage each of you to find your way to be part of this very, very, special 125th Anniversary Celebration. It is great to be a member of Park Avenue Synagogue.

Please note **Schedule of Religious Services** can be found on page 7 of this month's P.A.S. Bulletin.



Enriching our Jewish Lives: Prayer and Practice

Night of Shabbat Dinners

December 8 ✆
following 6:15 pm services

Shabbat, *Parashat VaYishlach*
Genesis 32:8-36:40

Our 2006 Theme of Prayer and Practice will culminate with the extraordinary night of congregational Shabbat dinners in the homes of our members. After our Passionate Davening Shabbat Services, host and guest families and singles will sit together to enjoy dinner, conversation, and community.

Who: Fellow congregants and you. We can't do it without your participation!

What: The culmination of our year's theme, *Enriching our Jewish Lives: Prayer and Practice*, with special Kosher Shabbat dinners where congregants host congregants.

When: 5:15 pm Special Tot *Kabbalat Shabbat* services, followed by early dinners for families with young children. 6:15 pm Passionate Davening Friday Night Services at P.A.S. immediately followed by dinners.

Where: Dinners will be at the homes of P.A.S. congregants who have kindly agreed to host the evening.

How: You can contact the Family Education Office at FamilyEd@Pasyn.org or 212-369-2600 x142 if you would like to join us. Please indicate your names, how many in your family and the ages of your children.

The Top 10 Reasons to Join in the Night of Shabbat Dinners

10 | No need to cook for Shabbat *(unless you're the host)*

9 | Make new friends in the community

8 | Enjoy guest appearances by the clergy and educators

7 | Get a glimpse of how other congregants celebrate Shabbat

6 | Celebrate the end of this year's theme of Prayer and Practice in a *heimish* way (Yiddish for "warm and homey")

5 | Sample recipes from the P.A.S. Community Cookbook

4 | Participate in an age-old ritual with your contemporary community

3 | Learn new twists on Shabbat including how to make it relevant to your lives today

2 | Engage in lively discussion and learning

1 | Enrich *your* Jewish Life through Prayer and Practice.

...and join us on December 9 for a special musical *Havdalah* followed by our **Musicale**.

Mitzvah Day

Sunday December 3
from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Join the Park Avenue Synagogue community in celebrating Mitzvah Day on Sunday, December 3rd. Bring your family and friends to perform good deeds to benefit those in need.

There will be something for everybody. As in the past we will be collecting goods to donate to charitable organizations as well as organizing the Parents' Association Flea Market. We will also sponsor our annual blood drive and of course, bake fresh cookies for donors. As always, there will lots of fun activities for all ages, 1 to 100: insightful discussions with our Clergy, off-site visits, arts and crafts, food collection, and numerous programs appearing for the first time.

Contact *Julie Ruvkun at 212-737-7911 or jg2065@Columbia.edu; or Nancy Dolinsky at 212-988-2169 or nancyd@nyc.rr.com*

***Havdalah*: Separating the Sacred and the Ordinary**

8th Annual Musicale

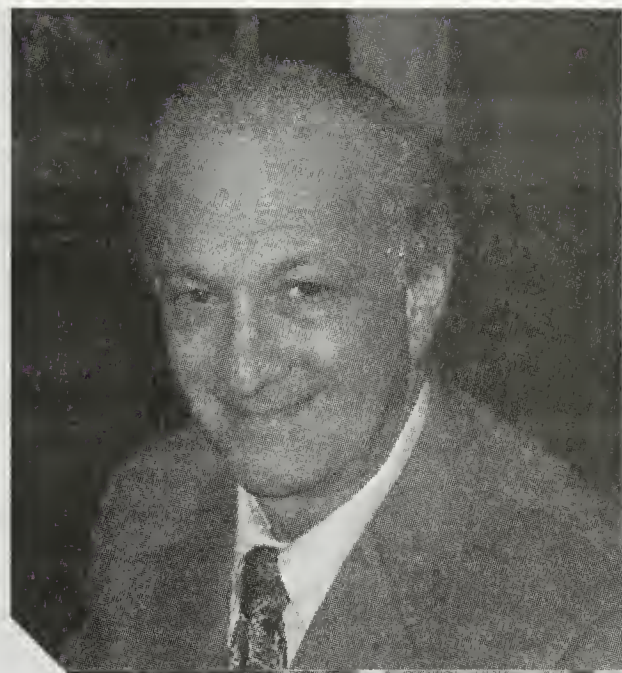
Saturday, December 9 at 7:00 pm

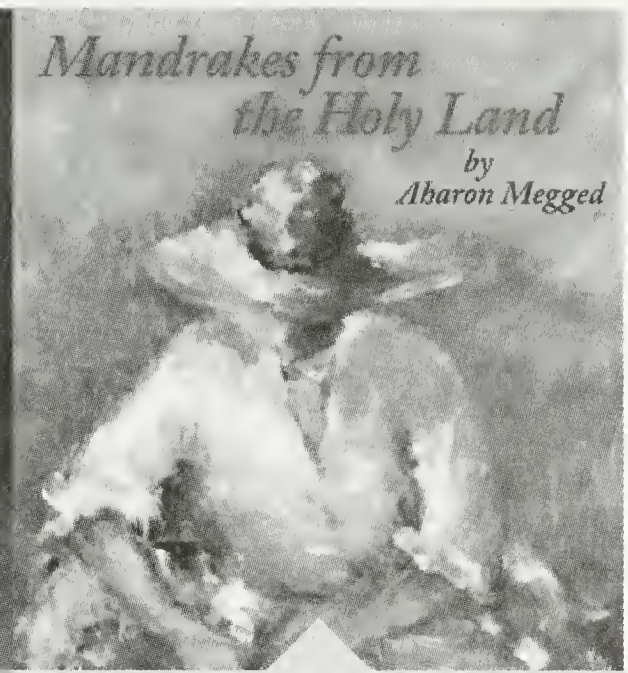
Please join in the beauty of our choral tradition by attending the Park Avenue Synagogue Musicale on Saturday evening, December 9 at 7:00 pm. The theme of the program this year is *Havdalah*, and will highlight the *Havdalah* Service separating Shabbat from the weekdays. The Musicale is a fitting conclusion to our Prayer and Practice year of study, and complements the Night of Shabbat Dinners on the preceding evening.

The Congregational Singers, under the direction of Neil Robinson, will join Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson in an uplifting program to say goodbye to Shabbat and greet a new week. A special treat will be the participation of our Youth Chorale, directed by Brian Gelfand.

Just as Shabbat is inaugurated with *Kiddush*, which separates sacred days from ordinary weekdays, we also mark the conclusion of Shabbat with *Havdalah*, a short ceremony of distinction or separation. We end Shabbat as we began, with wine and candles, and we add the fragrance of spices, in hope that the sweetness of Shabbat will linger into the week. The melodies of the Musicale will be one more way to help the beauty of Shabbat continue into the coming week.

So mark your calendars and don't miss this Eighth Annual Musicale! The entire Shabbat promises to be a very special ending to what has been a truly enriching year.

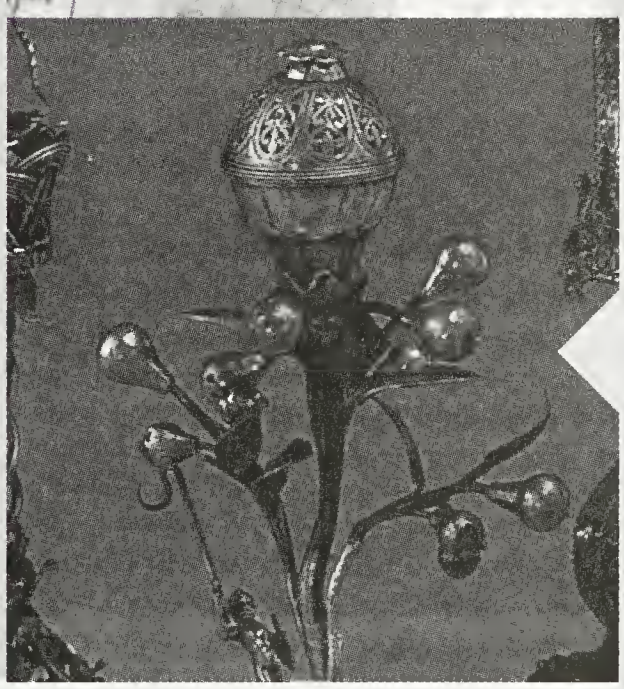




Evening Book Discussion Group

Monday, December 18 at 8:00 pm

The Book Group will be discussing "Mandrakes from the Holy Land" by Aharon Megged. Please join us. And prepare for our next meeting on January 22 by reading "A Woman from Jerusalem" by the noted Israeli novelist A.B. Yehoshua.



P.A.S. Gallery Exhibition

October 27-December 10
Shabbat at Home

This exhibition features Shabbat ritual objects belonging to the congregants of P.A.S. Featured objects include those with an interesting family history, art and design or significant place of origin. View new and old objects that enable our community to celebrate Shabbat at home.

Seeking Personal Reminiscences About P.A.S. History and Congregational Life

A special issue of "*Rayonot*: A Journal of Ideas" in celebration of P.A.S.'s 125th anniversary is being prepared. The editors are seeking articles and personal reminiscences about the history and congregational life at P.A.S.

Kindly contact *Joan Schefler at 212-734-0444 or Jean Rosensaft at 212-988-5991.*

Men's Club

Brunch for Guests from Project Ezra

Sunday, December 10 at 11:00 am

Our Men's Club has had a longstanding supportive relationship with Project Ezra, an independent, not-for-profit, grass-roots organization that serves 400 elderly on New York's Lower East Side. For 25 years the Men's Club has brought over 100 elders to brunch and to light the 6-foot menorah and celebrate the victory of the Maccabees. Our own High School students, led by Lisa Samick, serve the food to our guests and entertain them. Our visitors appreciate the opportunity to socialize with the young people and with our members. Through this work, we try to follow the mitzvah "Do not forsake me in my old age."

Sisterhood

Daytime Book Discussion Group

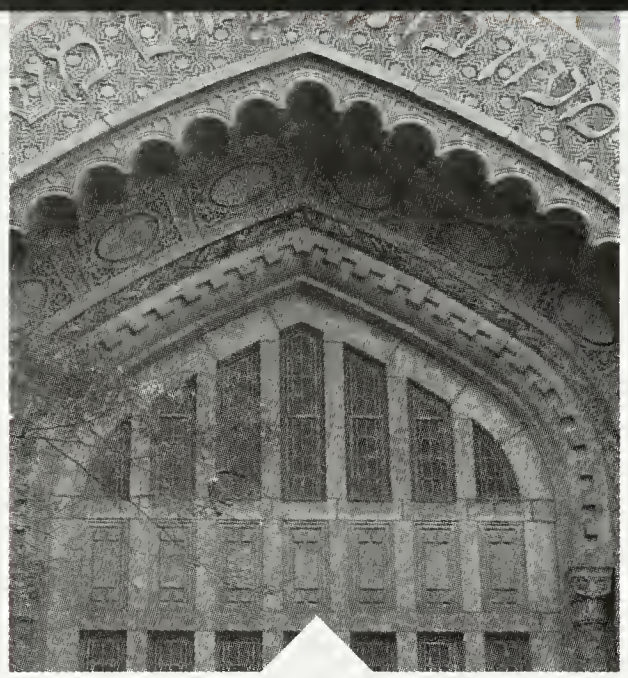
Monday, December 11 at 11:00 am

Join us in the Rothschild Library for a stimulating discussion of "Night," by Elie Wiesel. Coffee and cake will be served. Don't hesitate to come and listen to the discussion even if you have not yet read the book.

Yiddish Club

Tuesday, December 12 at 1:00 pm

As Chanukah approaches, come share your memories of this wonderful holiday and listen to appropriate Yiddish poems and stories. Enjoy refreshments and celebrate with us in the Rothschild Library.



"What Do American Jews Believe?"

Explore this Theme with Rabbi Stern

Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am

In a memorable symposium, *Commentary* magazine asked 47 Jewish thinkers to discuss the question "What Do Americans Believe?" Rabbi Kenneth Stern is now using this symposium as the text for his course on "Jewish Thought And Practice," which meets on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am. The course is conducted in an informal roundtable setting in the Rothschild Library. It is free and open to all members of P.A.S. Drop in and sample a class; you may find you'll want to come often.

Chanukah Celebration

Tuesday, December 19 at 1:00 pm

Sisterhood invites all P.A.S. members to participate in its joyous celebration of Chanukah. The program will be devoted to Israel, both ancient and modern. We will view and discuss a short documentary film, "In the Path of Prayer: The Ancient Synagogues of Israel," which opens a fascinating window into the religious life of ancient Israel. Irene Sommerfeld will then tell us about her recent experiences as a volunteer in Israel during the Lebanese war, and we will have an opportunity to talk with Irene. A light lunch including potato latkes will be provided.

WEG

First Annual Jewish Comedy Hour

Chanukah Party

Monday December 18, at 7:30 pm $ ✆

Women's Evening Group invites you to our first annual Jewish Comedy Hour. Featured will be professional, semi-professional and "surprise" entertainers of the highest caliber. Gala glorious desserts will be served. Everybody is welcome. Please save a place for yourself and your friends by making a reservation before December 8, by contacting Irene Sommerfeld, via email at irene212s@aol.com, or by telephone, 212-722-2721.

+ Look for PAS Bar Mitzvah picture

Schedule of Religious Services

Friday, December 1 · 10 Kislev
Light candles: 4:11 pm
Children's Birthday Service
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
7:00 pm *Minyan Ma'a lot*

Saturday, December 2 · 11 Kislev
Parashat Vayetzei
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Friday, December 8 · 17 Kislev
Light candles: 4:10 pm
Prayer & Practice Culminating Event
5:15 pm Tot *Kabbalat Shabbat*
6:00 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat & Shabbat B'yachad*
6:15 pm Passionate Davening Service
6:15 pm Night of Shabbat Dinners ✆

Saturday, December 9 · 18 Kislev
Parashat Vayishlach
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
4:45 pm *Mincha*
7:00 pm Havdalah and Musicale

Friday, December 15 · 24 Kislev
Light candles: 4:11pm
Chanukah: 1 Candle
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 16 · 25 Kislev
Parashat Vayeshev
Chanukah: 2 Candles
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 17 · 26 Kislev
Chanukah: 3 Candles

Monday, December 18 · 27 Kislev
Chanukah: 4 Candles

Tuesday, December 19 · 28 Kislev
Chanukah: 5 Candles

Wednesday, December 20 · 29 Kislev
Chanukah: 6 Candles

Thursday, December 21 · 30 Kislev
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Chanukah: 7 Candles

Friday, December 22 · 1 Tevet
Light candles: 4:14 pm
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Chanukah: 8 Candles
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 23 · 2 Tevet
Parashat Miketz
Chanukah: 8th Day
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Friday, December 29 · 8 Tevet
Light candles: 4:18 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 30 · 9 Tevet
Parashat Vayigash
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
5:00 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 31 · 10 Tevet
Fast of 10th of Tevet

Daily Minyanim *Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am*

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Mincha *Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm*

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

Welcome to P.A.S.

Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barr
Mr. Joshua Berman and Dr. Marcia Berman
Mr. Eric Gribetz and Dr. Carin Gribetz
Ms. Maureen Holzer
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Seidenfeld

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

~ Morris E. Biederman, *on the loss of his wife, Esther G. Biederman*
~ Bonnie Chajet, *on the loss of her mother, Muriel Loeb*
~ The family of the late Sally Pearce
~ The family of the late Margery Price
~ Scott Spolan, *on the loss of his mother, Gloria Moretzky Spolan*

Expecting? Before The Stork Arrives

Monday, December 4 at 8:00 pm

Spend a calm, leisurely hour with Rabbi Stern thinking and talking about Hebrew names, *brit milah*, baby-naming ceremonies, and *pidyon haben* before the stork arrives and you have to make these decisions amidst the emotions and changes that come with the arrival of your newborn.

Learn Hebrew on Mondays

December 4 and 11

Prayer Book Hebrew for Advanced Beginners

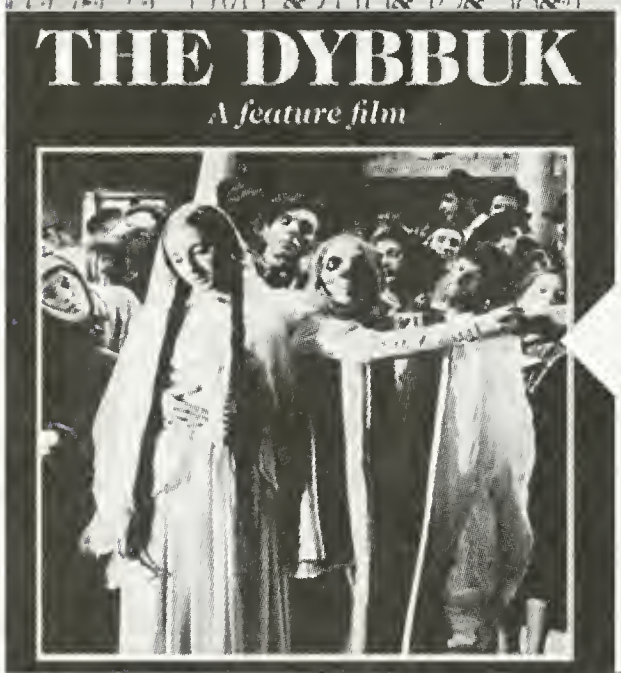
6:30-7:30 pm · Sarah Gribetz, Instructor

Conversational Hebrew for Advanced Beginners

6:30-7:30 pm · Andi Meiseles, Instructor

Intermediate Modern Hebrew

7:30-9:00 pm · Varda Hubara, Instructor



Perpetual Jewish Film Festival

Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 pm
Free of Charge

The Perpetual Jewish Film Festival offers free viewings of Jewish movies of note from around the world. Join us this month for the Yiddish masterpiece "*The Dybbuk.*"

Mark your calendar for

January 11 "Ship of Fools"
(a stunning indictment of pre-Holocaust society)

February 8 "Walk on Water"
(a haunting Israeli film of redemption and revenge)

Don't miss a single one! All are free. All are fabulous!

Beit Ishah— A Space for Women's Learning

Wednesdays at 12:30 pm
December 6, 13, and 20
Rabbi Dawn Rose, Instructor

Interpreting Torah

Thursdays at 7:00 pm
December 7 and 21
Rabbi Dawn Rose, Instructor

P.A.S. is Just a *Klik* Away

Park Avenue Synagogue's website, **www.pasyn.org** has the latest news, events, and times for any synagogue-related activity. And it also has lots of information about classes, programs, events, people, organizations, and meetings. Sign up for e-mail notifications! Communicate with our clergy and staff!

PASYN.ORG

News From the Library

Rabbi Dawn Rose, Library Director

Two New and Important Books by Conservative Scholars

"The Spirituality of Welcoming: How to Transform your Congregation into a Sacred Community," by Dr. Ron Wolfson

"The Way into *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World)" by Elliot N. Dorff.

Major Contributions in Modern Jewish History

"The Accidental Empire: Israel and the Birth of the Settlements, 1967-1977" by Gershom Gorenberg.

"The Pity of it All: A History of Jews in Germany, 1743-1933" by Amos Elon.

Novels Offering Cross-Cultural Perspectives

"Jubana! The Awkwardly True and Dazzling Adventures of a Jewish Cubana Goddess" by Gigi Anders.

"Martyrs' Crossing" by Amy Wilentz.
The story begins at an Israeli checkpoint. A New York Times Notable Book.

For Adoptive Families

"Dim Sum, Bagels, and Grits: a Sourcebook for Multicultural Families" by Myra Alperson

"Rebecca's Journey Home" by Brynn Olenberg Sugarman.
A lovely children's book about a Jewish family that adopts a Vietnamese child.

Notable Children's Books

"Many Ways: How Families Practice their Beliefs and Religions" by Shelly Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly Ed.D.

"The White Ram: A Story of Abraham and Isaac" by Mordicai Gerstein.
A beautifully illustrated book about the ram Abraham sacrificed in place of Isaac.

Please also note: We have recently acquired nearly 50 Jewish movies on DVD, as well as music CDs and audio books—all of which can be borrowed *free of charge.* **Come check us out!**

Newman and Leventhal
CATERERS, INC.
Appointed Caterers To
Park Avenue Synagogue
50 East 87 Street New York City
(212) 427-7912

Judaica Classics by Doina
125 East 85th Street, NYC, NY 10028
(212) 722-4271
See our display in the lobby of P.A.S.

PLAZA JEWISH
COMMUNITY CHAPEL, INC.
serving the New York Jewish Community
630 Amsterdam Avenue (at 91st St.)
New York City (212) 769-4400
Andrew Fier, *President*

Annual Concert For Kids

Sunday, December 17 at 11:00 am
(doors open 10:30 am) $ ✆

David Grover and the Big Bear Band take children's music very seriously, while making it lots of fun. They perform original and traditional music for kids of all ages. They call it folk music, but the influences behind the music are the performers and writers we all love. It's Broadway and the Carpenters, the Bee Gees and the Grateful Dead. And it's Woody Guthrie and Elmo. It's folk music of the 21st century. It's real people playing real instruments, playing songs they love, to people they love. At our concert they will also be performing some of their special Chanukah music.

The cost will be $36 per family—the whole *Mishpachah.*

Reservations required in advance. Drop off a check with name and number of guests, to the office on the 5th floor.

Congregational School

Ron Koas, Education Director

As part of my training at the Leadership Institute, I needed to create an "action research project." I am excited to inform you that this year we will be using our action research project grant to help fund a brand new Bar/Bat Mitzvah Education Program.

The goal of this program is to increase the involvement of both parents and students in the B'nai Mitzvah process. How will we do this? We will be offering a program that consists of five classes to be scheduled throughout the school year. The classes will occur every six weeks and attendance by both *Vav* students and their parents will be mandatory. Involving the entire family in the process creates a deeper bond between parent and child, and between family and Synagogue.

In these classes, students and parents will delve into the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process and have a chance to ask questions. We will talk about how becoming a bar/bat mitzvah should actually be seen as the beginning, not the end, of a young person's Jewish education. Through discussion and study, we hope to help each student deepen his/her sense of commitment and responsibility as an adult in the Jewish community, resulting in a more meaningful understanding of Bar/Bat Mitzvah. It is our hope that this new program will encourage our students to continue into the Synagogue's High School.

What will these classes be like? We expect about 90 people to attend each session. Three of the sessions will be taught by Rabbi Stern, Cantor Abramson, and I. We will break up into three groups to allow for a more intimate experience. One session will have students and their parents discussing the *parashat* for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. In the second session parents and students will take part in the 'build-a-pair' *tefillin* program and have a chance to discuss and discover what Judaism means on a personal basis. The third class will center on how families can enhance mitzvot. Each family will be asked to choose a mitzvah to focus on.

Two very special guest speakers will be invited to lead two additional sessions. Suzie Lax will speak with us about God, and how to use different Jewish "tools" to become an educated Jew who feels close to God. She centers her learning process around Jewish meditation. The second speaker will be Dafna Soltes Stein. She uses the art of storytelling to impart her message. Her class will be interactive, with students and parents using drama and movement in order to get closer to an understanding of God and their spirituality.

The program promises to be an exciting and fulfilling one. We are all looking forward to this new venture. *B'Hatzlacha*!

December Birthday Celebration

Friday, December 1 at 6:15 pm

Bring Shabbat into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at Park Avenue Synagogue. All children with December birthdays will be called up to the bimah and honored at our December Birthday Celebration Service. Come as a family and celebrate.

Contact *Rabbi Kenneth Stern's office for more information.*

Chanukah Family Art Workshop

Sunday, December 17 at 9:30 am

Our annual Chanukah Workshop will start a festive day for families and children of all ages. Everyone will have fun creating special decorations, including a giant 3-D *chanukiyah* that will be featured in our lobby. Everyone is welcome.

Friday, December 1 · 10 Kislev
Children's Birthday Service
Deadline to register for Toddler program

Saturday, December 2 · 11 Kislev
Parashat Vayetzei
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation

Sunday, December 3 · 12 Kislev
Mitzvah Day

Tuesday, December 5 · 14 Kislev
CS *Vav* Museum Trip

Wednesday, December 6 · 15 Kislev
CS *Hay* Museum Trip

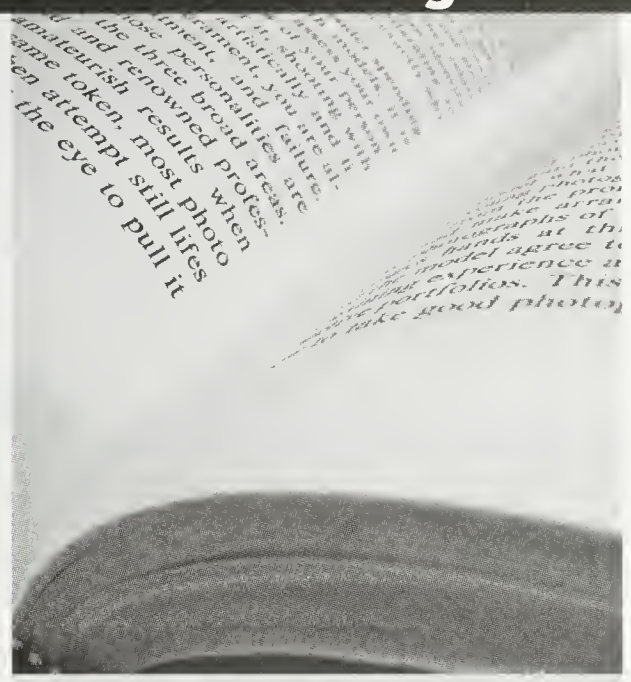
Thursday, December 7 · 16 Kislev
5:30 pm CS B'nei Mitzvah Seminar for Vav & Parents

Friday, December 8 · 17 Kislev
Prayer & Practice Culminating Event
5:15 pm Tot *Kabbalat Shabbat*
6:00 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat & Shabbat B'yachad*
6:15 pm Passionate Davening Service
6:15 pm **Night of Shabbat Dinners** ✆

Saturday, December 9 · 18 Kislev
No Congregational School
7:00 pm ***Havdalah* and Musicale**

Wednesday, December 13 · 22 Kislev
4:00 pm CS Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, December 14 · 23 Kislev
4:00 pm CS Parent-Teacher Conferences



Saturday, December 16 · 25 Kislev
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
HS Chanukah event

Sunday, December 17 · 26 Kislev
Kadima and *Ruach* group event
Rosh Chodesh: it's a girl thing!
9:30 am Chanukah Family Art Workshop
11:00 am David Grover and the Big Bear Band $ ✆

Monday, December 18 · 27 Kislev
ECC Chanukah Parties:
Purple & Blue Rooms

Tuesday, December 19 · 28 Kislev
ECC Chanukah Parties:
Orange & Green Rooms

Wednesday, December 20 · 29 Kislev
ECC Chanukah Parties:
Orange, Yellow & Red Rooms

Thursday, December 21 · 30 Kislev
Last Day Cong. School & ECC

Friday, December 22 · 1 Tevet
Last Toddler Classes

Celebrating a *Simcha*?

A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, or anything else for which you are grateful? Sponsor a breakfast *Kiddush* any weekday after our Morning Minyan.

Contact *Lynn Schneider at the synagogue for more information, 212-369-2600.*

Bikur Cholim Caring Committee

In Loving Memory of
Dr. Albert and Phyllis L. Cornell

Do you know someone ill, elderly, or homebound who would benefit from compassionate personal attention? The Park Avenue Synagogue *Bikur Cholim* Caring Committee reaches out to those in need through telephone calls, visits, and holiday packages. The Caring Committee is comprised of trained volunteers who are committed to providing hands-on support and companionship to those valued members of our congregation. All interactions are confidential.

To arrange for this mitzvah, *please call Rabbi Lincoln's office at 212-369-2600 ext. 120.*

Kol Nidre Appeal 2006/5767

On Behalf of the Officers and Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all those who have given to our annual Kol Nidre Appeal through October 17, 2006. Your generous donations help Park Avenue Synagogue maintain the level of our dynamic programming and community social action efforts, such as the Food Pantry.

The Kol Nidre Appeal is one of the most important synagogue-wide fundraising campaigns that we conduct each year, and the funds that are raised help the annual synagogue operating budget in countless ways. We are under new financial pressure because:

- Membership dues account for only 36% of the $8 million operating budget; and tuition accounts for another 39%; leaving 25% to be raised in other ways;
- Maintaining our inspiring sanctuary and landmark facility, parts of which date back to 1927, requires constant attention and improvement.

More than ever, we need your generous contributions. It is very important that all congregatnts contribute to this annual appeal. Again, our heartfelt thanks to those who have given. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make a Kol Nidre pledge, we look forward to hearing from you.

B'shalom,

Marty Halbfinger, Treasurer

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Mr. & Mrs. Brian Eizenstat
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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Goldberg
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Golden
Mr. Harvey Goldhersz & Mrs. Wendy Klein Goldhersz

Tikkun Olam "Something from Home"

Do you know a soldier far from home in need of a care package? Give us his or her name and APO and *Tikkun Olam* will send them "Something from Home."

Contact *our Co-Chairs to give us your soldier's name and address or to volunteer: Erica Choset: ericachoset@gmail.com, Marlene Muskin: idts52@aol.com 212-427-8778*

Kol Nidre Appeal 2006/5767 *continued*

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Kol Nidre Appeal 2006/5767 *continued*

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Mrs. Jean Steinberg
Mr. Michael Steinberg & Ms. Lauren Wiener
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Mr. Martin Usdan
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Mr. James Zirin & Ms. Marlene Hess
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Zivitofsky
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Zuckerman

Bible Fund

Ronnie, David & Josh Parker, *in honor of Sadie "Moma" Feiwel on her 100th birthday.*

Bikur Cholim

Ms. Iris L. Goodgold, *in honor of Joan & Paul Schreiber on becoming grandparents.*
Ms. Iris L. Goodgold, *in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Sylvan Schefler and Dr. & Mrs. Harry Spiera.*
Ms. Iris L. Goodgold, *in honor of Joan Schefler's Simhat Torah honor.*
Ms. Iris L. Goodgold, *in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Emily Spiera.*
Mr. Harry Krieger, *in honor of Floy Kaminiski for helping me in time of need.*
Elizabeth Kurntez & Jim Stahl, *in memory of Gerson Kaiserman, beloved father of Rosanne Lander.*
The Lander Family, *in memory of Bernice Sachs, beloved mother of Elizabeth Kurnetz.*

Congregational School Fund

Mr. Julius Paige, *in memory of his beloved mother, Beckie Pogrebinsky.*

High School Food Pantry

Vivian & Daniel Bernstein, *in memory of Dr. Mortimer Ostow, father of Rachel Lustbaber.*
Ellie, Mort & Alex Braverman, *in memory of Pearl Aronson.*
Paul & Anne Corwin, *in memory of Rachel Lustbader's father Dr. Mortimer Ostow.*
Mr. Leon Demb, *in honor of Henry & Karen Glanternik.*
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz.
Barry & Sheila Kliger, *in honor of Joan Schefler's honor on Simhat Torah.*
Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Lemor, *in honor of Joan Schefler, Kallat Bereshit.*
Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Lemor, *in honor of Dr. Zanvel Liff, Hatan Torah.*
Mrs. Barbara Robbins, *in honor of her birthday.*
Joann & David Small, *in memory of Dr. Motrtimer Ostow, father of Rachel Lustbader.*
Dr. Barbara Weinstein, *in memory of her beloved mother, Rita Weinstein.*
Meryl E. Wiener & Barry A. Bryer, *in honor of Sarita and Mark Fraier on the marriage of their daughter Rachel Fraier to Colby Makowsky.*
Meryl E. Wiener & Barry A. Bryer, *in honor of Joan Schefler being named Kallat Bereshit.*
Amy & Scott Zemser, *Mazel Tov to Joan Schefler on her honor on Simhat Torah.*

Liturgical Music Fund

Ms. Elinor Lubin, *in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Steven Meltzer.*

Prayer Book Fund

Lisa & Matthew Golden & Family, *in honor of Jeffrey Stern's Bar Mitzvah.*
Mrs. Ruth Levenson, *in honor of Joan Schefler being named Kallat Bereshit.*
Mrs. Ruth Levenson, *in honor of Frances Berger's 95th birthday.*
Mr. Herman Rosen, *in honor of his birthday.*
Tamara & Scott Spolan, *in honor of Douglas Eisert.*
Mrs. Frances Fish Tompkins, *in memory of Elsa Bielenberg, sister-in-law of Lite Sabin.*

Welfare Fund

Mrs. Patricia Fuchs.
Terry & Dan Wasserman, *in honor of their Aliyah.*

Synagogue Offerings

Mrs. Beverly Abrams, *in memory of her beloved father, Irving Fraser.*
Mr. Harvey Alsodt, *in memory of his beloved mother, Fay Alstodt.*
The Bass Family, *in memory of Frank Rosenblatt.*
Dr. Georgette Bennett, *in memory of her beloved mother, Sidonie Bennett.*
Mr. David Berney, *in memory of his beloved father, Joseph Berney.*
Mrs. Lori Bilkis, *in memory of her beloved sister, Miriam Bisulco.*
Martha & Jonathan Cohen, *in memory of Dr. Mortimer Ostow, father of Rachel Lustbader.*
Ms. Sherry Cohen, *in honor of Dr. Zanvel Liff to celebrate his naming as Hatan Torah at Simhat Torah.*
Ms. Sherry Cohen, *in honor of the 95th birthday of Frances Berger.*
Mrs. Jacqueline Dack, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mr. Leon Demb, *in memory of his beloved father, Julio Demb.*
Mrs. Rachel Klein-Forest, *in memory of her beloved father, Barry Klein*
Ms. Brenda Goldman, *in memory of her beloved sister, Edith Pardes.*
Mrs. Mary Goldman, *in memory of her beloved mother, Ida Gilbert.*
Dr. Ethan Gologor, *in memory of his beloved mother, Esther Gologor.*
Linda, Jennifer & Jason Grad, *in memory of Dr. Gary J. Grad*
Laurie & Maury Harris, *in memory of Dr. Mortimer Ostow, father of Rachel O. Lustbader.*
Mrs. Dale Israel, *in memory of her beloved father, Edward Pearlman.*
Dr. Gary Israel, *in honor of his birthday.*
Mrs. Miriam Kaplan, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mrs. Marilyn Katz, *in memory of her beloved husband, Robert Katz.*
Mrs. Marilyn Katz, *in memory of her beloved mother, Lillian Greenberg.*
Mr. Kenneth Kay, *in memory of his beloved mother, Esther Kay.*
Mr. Gershon Kekst, *in memory of his beloved mother, Chana Kekst.*
Ms. Barbara Kotin, *in memory of Edith Zitwer.*
Ellen & Allan Kuna, *in memory of Patricia Offman.*
Mrs. Phyllis Leventhal, *in memory of her beloved mother, Gladys Braun.*
Mrs. Joyce Levine, *in memory of her beloved father, Saul Celnik.*
Ms. Marian Levitt, *in memory of her beloved mother, Mildred Pascal.*
Janet Liff and Family, *in honor of her father, Dr. Zanvel Liff for being named Hatan Torah.*
Dr. Sharon Liff & Family, *in honor of her father Dr. Zanvel Liff to celebrate his naming as Hatan Torah.*
Dr. Sylvia Liff, *in honor of her husband, Dr. Zanvel Liff, to celebrate his naming as Hatan Torah.*
Dr. Zanvel Liff, *in memory of Dr. Mortimer Ostow, father of Rachel Lustbader.*
Mr. Edward Lipiner, *in honor of his High Holy day Aliyah.*
Mrs. Miriam London, *in memory of her beloved mother-in-law, Selma London.*
Mrs. Miriam London, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mr. Larry Lurin, *in memory of his father, Philip Lurin.*
Dr. Ann Lyons, *in memory of her beloved father, Julius Moskowitz.*
Mrs. Marion Madoff, *in memory of her beloved father, Irving Schwartzberg.*
Laurie & Ancile Malden, *in honor of a wonderful Rosh Hashanah with my family, Caryn & Marc Becker, Olivia and Willow.*
Mr. Ben Mendelsohn, *in honor of his birthday.*
Ms. Rise Norman, *in memory of her beloved father, Herbert Norman.*
Mrs. Debra Weinberg-Paull, *in memory of her beloved father, Daniel Weinberg.*
Mr. Todd Pearl, *in memory of his beloved father, David Pearl.*
Mrs. Rachel S. Philipp, *in memory of her beloved brother, Ernest Furchtgott.*
Mrs. Elaine Polson, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mr. Mordecai Rochlin, *in memory of his beloved brother, Benjamin Rochlin.*
Mrs. Estelle Roth, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mr. Robert De Rothschild, *in memory of his beloved father, Alain De Rothschild.*
Mr. Andre Sassoon, *in memory of his beloved mother, Sarine Sassoon.*
Sylvan & Joan Schefler, *in memory of Dr. Mortimer Ostow, father of Rachel O. Lustbader.*
Mrs. Malka Schwarz, *in memory of her beloved husband, Mannes Schwarz.*
Judge Melvin Schweitzer, *in memory of his beloved father, Irving Schweitzer.*
Mr. Michael Shaw, *in memory of his beloved father, Louis Shwarootz.*
Mr. Stanley Siegelbaum, *in memory of his beloved mother, Frances Siegelbaum.*
Mr. Sydney Silberman, *in honor of his birthday.*
Mrs. Daphne Silverstein, *in memory of her beloved father, Arieh Cohen.*
The Sisterhood of Park Avenue Synagogue, *in honor of Dr. Zanvel Liff to celebrate his naming as Hatan Torah at Simhat Torah.*
Ms. Susan Smirnoff, *in memory of her beloved father, Nathan Smirnoff.*
Mrs. Frances Tompkins, *in memory of her beloved mother, Charlotte B. Fish.*
Mr. Ray Treiger, *in memory of his beloved father, Sam Treiger.*
Ms. Jacqueline Wahl, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mrs. Lois Weinberg, *in memory of her beloved father, Aaron Harry Paul.*
Dr. Harry Weinrauch, *in memory of his beloved mother, Cele Weinrauch.*
Ms. Irene Winkelman, *in memory of her beloved father, Louis I. Winkelman.*
Mrs. Susan Winter, *in memory of her beloved father, Lewis Rosenfeld.*
Dr. Kirk Zachary & Ms. Susan Smirnoff, *for Yizkor.*
Mrs. Annette Zimmerman, *in celebration of the birth of my first great grandson, Adam Ezekiel Wise.*
Mrs. Annette Zimmerman, *in memory of her beloved father, Abraham Fortgang.*
Mr. Eugene Zinbarg, *in honor of his birthday.*
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Zinbarg, *in honor of their anniversary.*

Participate in our 125th Anniversary Celebration

With your photographs, memorabilia, stories, documents, and memories.

Contact *Laurie Harris, 212-570-9628 or mllcharris @aol.com; or Marcia Stone, 212-570-6239, or mstone8072@aol.com.*

Calling All P.A.S. Bar and Bat Mitzvah Photos

We are seeking photos of P.A.S. B'nei Mitzvah throughout the decades for an exhibition that will open in January 2007! All photos will be returned. The deadline is December 8th!

Please send your photo, labeled on the back with your name, address, the date of the event, and a memory of that special day, to the:
P.A.S. Gallery Committee
c/o Family Education Office
50 East 87th Street
New York, NY 10128

COMMITTEE FOR TIKKUN OLAM
תקון עולם
Repairing The World
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Something from Home

Please join us in a letter writing campaign. Send Chanukah cards, notes, or pictures. Children can send drawings thanking our Jewish GIs for the job they are doing in Iraq. There will be a mailbox in the Synagogue's lobby starting December 1st. "Mail" your letter there and it will be delivered in Iraq.

Thank you for your support.

Join American Jewish World Service and the Park Avenue Synagogue in El Salvador from March 25, 2007-April 1, 2007

Join other Park Avenue Synagogue teens to experience:

☞ **Service:** working in a community development project;
☞ **Study:** learning about social justice within a Jewish framework;
☞ **Cross-cultural exchange:** living, working and playing in El Salvador

We are now accepting applications for students in grades 10-12
For more information: call Lisa Samick at 212-369-2600, ext.141

Calendar of Events December 2006

Daily Minyanim *Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am;* **Mincha** *Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm*

Friday, December 1 · 10 Kislev
Light candles: 4:11pm
Children's Birthday Service
Deadline to register for Toddler program
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
7:00 pm *Minyan Ma'a lot*

Saturday, December 2 · 11 Kislev
Parashat Vayetzei
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 3 · 12 Kislev
10:00 am-3:00 pm **Mitzvah Day**

Monday, December 4 · 13 Kislev
6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew $ ✆
6:30 pm Prayer Book Hebrew $ ✆
7:15 pm WEG Board Meeting
7:30 pm Interm. Mod. Hebrew $ ✆
8:00 pm Expecting?/Rabbi Stern

Tuesday, December 5 · 14 Kislev
CS *Vav* Museum Trip
8:00 am Talmud Study/Rabbi Lincoln
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern

Wednesday, December 6 · 15 Kislev
CS *Hay* Museum Trip
10:30 am Judaism Class
12:30 pm *Beit Ishah*
8:00 pm Hearing Men's Voices ✆

Thursday, December 7 · 16 Kislev
11:00 am Lunch'n'Learn
5:30 pm CS B'nei Mitzvah Seminar for *Vav* & Parents
7:00 pm Interpreting Torah/Rabbi Rose

Friday, December 8 · 17 Kislev
Light candles: 4:10 pm
Prayer & Practice Culminating Event
5:15 pm Tot *Kabbalat Shabbat*
6:00 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat* & *Shabbat B'yachad*
6:15 pm Passionate Davening Service
6:15 pm **Night of Shabbat Dinners** ✆

Saturday, December 9 · 18 Kislev
Parashat Vayishlach
No Congregational School
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
7:00 pm ***Havdalah* and Musicale**
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 10 · 19 Kislev
11:00 am Men's Club Project Ezra Brunch

Monday, December 11 · 20 Kislev
11:00 am Sisterhood Book Discussion Group
6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew $ ✆
6:30 pm Prayer Book Hebrew $ ✆
7:30 pm Interm. Mod. Hebrew $ ✆

Tuesday, December 12 · 21 Kislev
8:00 am Talmud Study/Rabbi Lincoln
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
1:00 pm Sisterhood Yiddish Club
6:15 pm Men's Club Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 13 · 22 Kislev
10:30 am Judaism Class
12:30 pm *Beit Ishah*
4:00 pm CS Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, December 14 · 23 Kislev
11:00 am Lunch'n'Learn
4:00 pm CS Parent-Teacher Conferences
7:00 pm Film Series: "*The Dybbuk*"

Friday, December 15 · 24 Kislev
Light candles: 4:11pm
Chanukah: 1 Candle
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 16 · 25 Kislev
Parashat Vayeshev
Chanukah: 2 Candles
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
9:30 am *Havurah* Service
10:00 am *Nitzanim* Service
10:15 am Junior Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
HS Chanukah event
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 17 · 26 Kislev
Chanukah: 3 Candles
Kadima and *Ruach* group event
Rosh Chodesh: it's a girl thing!
9:30 am Chanukah Family Art Workshop
11:00 am David Grover/the Big Bear Band $ ✆

Monday, December 18 · 27 Kislev
Chanukah: 4 Candles
ECC Chanukah Parties: Purple & Blue Rooms
7:30 pm WEG Chanukah Party $ ✆
8:00 pm Evening Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, December 19 · 28 Kislev
Chanukah: 5 Candles
ECC Chanukah Parties:
Orange & Green Rooms
8:00 am Talmud Study/Rabbi Lincoln
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
1:00 pm Sisterhood Chanukah celebration

Wednesday, December 20 · 29 Kislev
Chanukah: 6 Candles
ECC Chanukah Parties:
Orange, Yellow & Red Rooms
10:30 am Judaism Class
12:30 pm *Beit Ishah*

Thursday, December 21 · 30 Kislev
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Chanukah: 7 Candles
Last Day Cong. School & ECC
11:00 am Lunch'n'Learn
7:00 pm Interpreting Torah/Rabbi Rose
7:30 pm Moonbeams Meeting

Friday, December 22 · 1 Tevet
Light candles: 4:14 pm
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Chanukah: 8 Candles
Last Toddler Classes
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 23 · 2 Tevet
Parashat Miketz
Chanukah: 8th Day
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
4:45 pm *Mincha*

Monday, December 25 · 4 Tevet
Legal Holiday Offices Closed

Tuesday, December 26 · 5 Tevet
8:00 am Talmud Study/Rabbi Lincoln
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
12:00 pm Sisterhood Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 27 · 6 Tevet
10:30 am Judaism Class

Thursday, December 28 · 7 Tevet
11:00 am Lunch'n'Learn

Friday, December 29 · 8 Tevet
Light candles: 4:18 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 30 · 9 Tevet
Parashat Vayigash
7:30 am *Hashkama* Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
5:00 pm *Mincha*

Sunday, December 31 · 10 Tevet
Fast of 10th of Tevet

Information and details are subject to change. Confirm at pasyn.org or with the office.

See page 7 for Religious Services schedule. See page 11 for Children's and School Programs schedule.

A Look Ahead

The year 2007 begins our 125th Anniversary celebration which we will launch with our *Shabbaton*

Rabbi Moshe Druin, *Sofer* and educator

January 26, 27, 28, 29

All members and families will be invited to participate in our Torah-writing program—the very special opportunity for everyone to contribute to writing the Torah that we have commissioned to celebrate our anniversary. Schedules will be set up for individuals, groups, and extended families to actually write in our Torah.

Shabbaton Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Bradley Artson

January 26, 27

The special guest at our *Shabbaton*, Rabbi Bradley Artson, ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and a cum laude graduate of Harvard University, is Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and Vice President of the University of Judaism in Los Angeles and on the faculty of the Wexner Heritage Foundation. He is a widely published writer and respected teacher. We expect our time with him will be interesting and enlightening.

Park Avenue Synagogue ק"ק אגודת ישרים

50 East 87th Street • New York, NY, 10128 • www.pasyn.org

Affiliated with The Jewish Theological Seminary and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Judah Nadich, Rabbi Emeritus
David H. Lincoln, Senior Rabbi
Kenneth A. Stern, Rabbi
David Lefkowitz, Senior Cantor
Nancy Abramson, Cantor
Amy A.B. Bressman, Chairman of the Board
Menachem Z. Rosensaft, President
Beryl P. Chernov, Executive Director
Ron Koas, Education Director
Carol Hendin, Director, Early Childhood Center
Sarah Gribetz, Director, Adult and Family Education
Lisa Samick, Director, Rabbi Judah Nadich High School
Patricia Rich, P.A.S. Bulletin Editor
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